Supply of coconut arrack by Messrs. Parry & Co.

* 1326 *Q.*—Mr. C. V. VENKATARAMANA AYYANGAR: Will the hon. the Minister for Public Health be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether Messrs. Parry & Co. have been given the right of supplying coconut arrack to all or most parts of the Presidency, and if so, under what conditions and for what period;

(*b*) whether there is any proposal before the Government to declare coconut arrack to be country liquor;

(*c*) if not, whether the Government have any objection to consider the proposal now, and if not, why not;

(*d*) whether there has been recently any reduction of duty on coconut arrack, and if so, why and to what extent;

(*e*) whether Messrs. Parry & Co. have been given the right of supplying molasses arrack also, and if so, under what conditions and in what parts of the Presidency; and

(*f*) whether the Government are aware of any competition between the molasses arrack and toddy arrack, and if so, to what extent?

A.—(*a*), (*e*) & (*f*) The Government have called for a report.
(*b*) & (*d*) No.
(*c*) The suggestion will be considered.

Medical

Appointment of a steward-clerk in the Government Hospital at Coonoor.

* 1327 *Q.*—Mr. V. I. MUNISWAMI PILLAI: Will the hon. the Minister for Public Health be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether a steward-clerk was appointed to the Government Hospital at Coonoor during the month of November 1928;

(*b*) if so, the names of candidates with castes who applied for the post;

(*c*) whether it is a fact that the newly appointed clerk is a close relative of the Sub-Assistant Surgeon of the Government Lawley Hospital, Coonoor, and is a permanent clerk of the Forest Range office, Bolampatti;

(*d*) whether it is a fact that the present clerk has been asked by the District Forest Officer, Palghat, to join duty at Bolampatti; if so, what new arrangements are being made to fill the vacancy;

(*e*) whether the post that was filled in was advertised; if not, why not;

(*f*) whether, in view of the recent defalcations in the hospital accounts in the above hospital, the Government think it advisable to appoint a relative of the sub-assistant surgeon as the clerk; and

(*g*) if the Government are not in possession of the full facts of the case, whether they will call for them and place them on the table of the House?

A.—(*a*) *to* (*g*) A report[a] on the subject obtained from the Surgeon-General is laid on the table.

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[a] Printed as Appendix X on pages 648-649 infra.